

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 254046  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:FZBROWN/FMLC  
APPROVED BY EA:ROAKLEY  
S/S-O: T. MARTIN  
D-MR. CHRISTOPHER  
-----083495 220129Z /62  
O 220115Z OCT 77 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 254046

NODIS  
DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS OCTOBER 22; WH FOR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VM, US

SUBJECT: US-SRV RELATIONS: NORMALIZATION TALKS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE AND MARK PRATT.

1. THE SECRETARY HAS APPROVED EA'S RECOMMENDATION ON RESPONSE TO VIETNAMESE PROPOSAL CONCERNING NORMALIZATION. HE HAS ALSO APPROVED RECOMMENDATION THAT HOLBROOKE AND BENNET TAKE SOUNDINGS ON HILL ON POSSIBLE ADVERSE DOMESTIC CONSEQUENCES, WHICH COULD REQUIRE PUTTING OFF THIRD MEETING FROM DECEMBER TIMEFRAME WE PROPOSED UNTIL JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1978.

2. NGUYEN CO THACH DEPARTS NEW YORK OCTOBER 22 AND WILL BE IN PARIS AT LEAST THROUGH SUNDAY. FOLLOWING IS APPROVED

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TEXT OF LETTER FROM HOLBROOKE TO THACH, WHICH HOLBROOKE COULD SIGN PERSONALLY IN PARIS FOR DELIVERY TO THACH OR FOR TRANSMITTAL VIA SRV LIAISON OFFICER IN USUAL FASHION.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF

MEETING WITH YOU AND ASSISTANT MINISTER DIEN IN NEW YORK.  
I HOPE IT WAS HELPFUL FOR YOU TO HAVE A DETAILED EXPOSITION  
OF OUR VIEWS WITH REGARD TO FURTHER PROGRESS ON NORMALIZA-  
TION. IT WAS CERTAINLY USEFUL FOR US TO LEARN MORE OF YOUR  
VIEWS.

I WISH TO REITERATE THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT  
CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE DIRECTLY TO AMBASSADOR DINH BA  
THI ON OCTOBER 5 CONCERNING THE DESIRE OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO CONTINUE PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVING RELATIONS.

TO THIS END, I AM AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE  
PROPOSAL THAT THE U.S. AND THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
VIETNAM MEET BEFORE YEAR END IN A THIRD ROUND OF THE CON-  
TINUING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN VICE MINISTER PHAN HIEN AND  
MYSELF. MY PRESENT JUDGMENT IS THAT WE MIGHT MEET IN  
EARLY DECEMBER IN NEW YORK, OR IF THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE, IN  
PARIS. IF DECEMBER IS NOT CONVENIENT, WE OF COURSE WOULD  
BE RECEPTIVE TO YOUR ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION. SINCERELY,  
RICHARD HOLBROOKE.

HIS EXCELLENCY, NGUYEN CO THACH, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER,  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. END TEXT.

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DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA/BJSHARP

APPROVED BY: IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:JTHYDEN

-----129341 251903Z /41

O 251834Z OCT 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 254046

NODIS  
FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 254046 ACTION PARIS IMMEDIATE INFO  
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE OCT 22

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 254046

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SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. END TEXT.

VANCE

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Subject:** US-SRV RELATIONS: NORMALIZATION TALKS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, VM, US, (NGUYEN CO THACH), (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD C)  
**To:** PARIS WHITE HOUSE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009